MINUTES FOR NAPRA GENERAL MEETING OCT 13TH

I. Introductions of all in attendance were made.

II. Two Tellers were appointed, Steve, N8GNJ, and Ken WA2JQW, to count the ballots and report back with the results.

III. Old Business

A. SEAW - Access to a key to the Green Mountain facility has been at the discression on the key holder (we pay no rent and have no key of our own). The 2M TNC had locked up 4 days after it was last fixed. The TNC was replaced yesterday 10/12 and a problem with the diode interface board was corrected. All looked good when Dennis, KB7DZ, and Bob, KD7NM, left the hill, but once home it was apparent there was a problem with the 220 backbone radio #SEAW. Bob thinks the frequency knob may have been bumped as things were being put back and closed up. Bob will be going back this afternoon to fix that.

Other sources of keys have been identified by Scott, N7FSP, and that will be looked into to see if more timely access can be obtained for the future. Also, the site owner needs non-radio help from time to time weeding, painting, repairing fences, etc. We plan to set up a list of people willing to be called to help with these kinds of jobs.

B. SEA - looks good.

C. BALDY - looks good too. It is still available to users on 2M.

D. 440 Repeater - Site has been arranged for the next year. The package is close to being finished. The plan is to link to SEA and SEAW first and work out the bugs before offering access to other nodes.

E. Coordination / WWARA - A joint committee from WWARA and NAPRA has been formed to set up guide lines for packet coordination that will be administered by WWARA. Committee includes Dennis, KB7DZ, Ken, N7IPB, from NAPRA and Herman, K7PAG, from Gig Harbor, and Bob, WA7NAN, both representing WWARA. WWARA has recently accepted a broader responsibility of Spectrum Management which covers simplex as well as repeater frequencies. Several in attendence felt that a bulletin and flyers in Ham stores was in order to let everyone in the Ham community know what is going on. Ken agreed and plans to do this, including a list of what packet activity is currently known to be on what frequency and what is currently considered coordinated. Conrad, N7DUO, had strong comments on what he is experiencing on 144.93 MHz. This will be looked into, but the committee will also look for a better place for him to operate. It was agreed that things should get better in the near future as the coordination effort gets better know and recognized.

IV. Election results: The seven elected to the board are: WA7FUS, KA7TTY, KB7DZ, WB7USL, N6RY, N7IPB, and N7FSP. They will be making selection of specific jobs at the Board of Directors meeting Wed Oct 17th.

V. Program: Report from the 9th Annual Computer Networking Conference in London, Ontario, Canada the end of Sept. by Dennis, KB7DZ, and Ken, N7IPB.
Highlights: Manatoba - Working on digital voice compression, 48,000 BPS

Bloom - Amateur voice systems - digital?

N6GN - RF 900 and 1200 MHz and high speed digital radios
Ill. - Going to IP Switch type sites instead of nodes.
Kantronics - Data Engine DE-56, and a DBR-22 were shown.
Clover - articles are in the book, but Ray, W7GHM, did not make it in person.
Europe - Flex-Net developing in Germany, uses 6809 processor
US Air Force - schemes shown for routing digital signals on HF

Both Dennis and Ken found it a great experience and were glad they were able to go. Both indicated the out-of-pocket expences including hotel and air fare ran around $650, but they thought it was worth it.

10th Conference next year will likely be in the Washington, D.C. area

VI. Announcements:

Board of Directors meeting Oct 17th Omni 7 PM

Program for next General Meeting in Tacoma in November will be on Satellite Communications especially digital by Ken, WA2JQW.